

REMARKS

No new matter is believed to be added to the application by this Amendment.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-7 and 9-24 are pending in the application. Claim 8 is canceled by this Amendment. The amendments to claim 6 incorporate the subject matter of canceled claim 8.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) Over Kim

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kim (U.S. Patent No. 6,175,396). Applicant traverses this rejection and respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal thereof.

Claim 6 as amended incorporates the subject matter of canceled claim 8. Claim 8 is free of the anticipation rejection over Kim. Accordingly, this rejection is overcome and withdrawal thereof is indicated.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Kim in View of Yun

Claims 4, 7-9 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Kim in view of Yun (U.S. Patent No. 5,835,139). Applicant traverses this rejection and respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal thereof.

The Present Invention and Its Advantages

The present invention pertains to a mounting bracket for a liquid crystal display module that reduces the thickness of the liquid crystal display module. As shown in Figure 3 of the application, the bracket has a vertical portion and a first horizontal portion that is substantially perpendicular to a first end of the vertical portion. A second horizontal portion supports the front frame of the module. The second horizontal portion is substantially perpendicular to a second end of the vertical portion. The bracket is also fitted with screw holes.

Distinctions of the Invention Over Kim and Yun

Kim pertains to a liquid crystal display module which fixes sheets to a frame using earth clips without using tape. See Abstract of Kim. For example, the earth clip 70 in Figure 10 of Kim is an external fastener.

In contrast, the present invention pertains to a mounting bracket placed inside the front and back frames of a liquid crystal display module. This internal bracket provides reinforcement to better screw together a very thin liquid crystal display module.

That is, Kim provides no teaching pertaining to an internal mounting bracket. Therefore, Kim uses a different mounting

technology. As a result, a person having ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to use the teachings of Kim.

The Examiner turns to Yun for teachings pertaining to a front frame, a rear frame and a monitor case. However, Yun fails to address the deficiencies of Kim in suggesting the internal bracket of the invention. As a result, a person having ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to produce a claimed embodiment of the invention from the combined teachings of Yun and Kim. Therefore, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been made over Yun and Kim.

Further, the Examiner rejects dependent claims 4 and 14 but fails to reject their base claims 1 and 12, respectively. Since the base claims are free of this rejection over Kim and Yun, it follows that claims dependent upon claims 1 and 12 are also free of this rejection.

Accordingly, this rejection is overcome and withdrawal thereof is indicated.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) Over Kurihara in view of Yun

Claims 1-3, 5, 10-13 and 15-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Kurihara (U.S. Patent No. 5,946,061) in view of Yun. Applicant traverses this rejection and respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal thereof.

Yun discusses a liquid crystal module having a front frame, a rear frame and a monitor case. Screws and holes are used to hold the assembly together.

Figure 3 of Kurihara shows a support member 13 having a horizontal surface and a vertical surface running along an entire side of a frame. This large, bulky structure requires a protrusion 12 (see Figure 3a) in the frame in order to accommodate the support member 13. As a result, this technology would not be applied to a thin liquid crystal display, and a person having ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to use this reference.

7
Not in claim
In contrast, the bracket of the invention has a small footprint which provides support for screwing together a very thin display. Page 3 of the specification discusses the disadvantages of the small diameter screw that is used in the conventional art.

9
2nd embodiment
Further, Kurihara uses a screw or pin as a stop screw or pin to limit movement of the panel, not to hold it together. See Kurihara at column 3, lines 29-34. That is, the panel of Kurihara is held together by latches, not by screws as in the present invention. At column 3, lines 65-67, Kurihara states "If the latch is employed in this way, the liquid crystal panel can be reliably fixed without employing other components such as screws." Therefore, Kurihara teaches away from the invention. As a result, a person having ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to combine the teachings of Yun with Kurihara to produce a claimed

embodiment of the invention. Therefore, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been made.

Additionally, the Examiner rejects dependent claims 10 and 11 but fails to reject their base claim 6 over Kurihara and Yun. As a result, since the base claim is free of this rejection, it follows that the dependent claims are free of this rejection as well.

Accordingly, this rejection is overcome and withdrawal thereof is indicated.

Prior Art Made of Record and Not Relied Upon by the Examiner

The prior art made of record and not relied upon by the Examiner is indicative of the conventional art which the invention supercedes. Accordingly, no additional remarks are necessary.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant thanks the Examiner for considering the Information Disclosure Statement filed September 12, 2000 and for making the initialed PTO-1449 form of record in the Office Action mailed May 31, 2002.

Correspondence

The Examiner is respectfully requested to address all correspondence to Joseph A. Kolasch at the address below.

Conclusion

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert E. Goozner (Reg. No. 42,593) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by this Amendment.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By  #39,538
Joseph A. Kolasch, #22,463


JAK/REG:jls
3430-0122P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

Attachment: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

(Rev. 02/20/02)

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 8 has been canceled.

The claims have been amended as follows:

6. (Amended) A mounting bracket for assembling an LCD module having rear and front frames and a LCD panel mounted between the rear and front frames, wherein the mounting bracket comprises:

a vertical portion; [and]

a first horizontal portion, wherein the first horizontal portion is substantially perpendicular to a first end of the vertical portion; and

a second horizontal portion for supporting the front frame,
the second horizontal portion being substantially perpendicular to
a second end of the vertical portion.